

### **HKETO website revamp**

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) has revamped its website with a fresh look to users, enabling easier access to updated information of HKETO and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government. The website adopts responsive web design to fit multiple screen sizes such as desktop computers and mobile devices. Please click the link below to access the website:

[www.hketotoronto.gov.hk](http://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk)

### **RECENT ACTIVITIES**

#### **Director of HKETO attends the inaugural ACCE Manitoba Gala in Winnipeg**

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the inaugural Manitoba Gala organised by the Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs (ACCE) in Winnipeg on 24 September.

Speaking at the event, Ms Mo highlighted that the HKSAR possesses unique strengths under "One Country, Two Systems". Hong Kong has long been a key partner of Canadian companies which want to tap into the Asia Pacific market. Canadian businesses can feel homelike in Hong Kong as the two places simply share similar business culture, systems and language.

Ms Mo also talked about the current situation in Hong Kong, including the decision to withdraw the extradition bill by the HKSAR Government. A round of dialogue sessions has been launched with a view to communicating with the general public on their suggestions to building a better Hong Kong. In addition, the Government has introduced a basket of measures to support companies, including overseas companies registered in Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/director-of-hketo-attends-the-inaugural-acce-manitoba-gala-in-winnipeg.html>

#### **HKETO Director pays a courtesy call on MPP Billy Pang**

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, paid a courtesy call on Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) Mr Billy Pang, who is also the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, at the Ontario Legislative Building on October 2.

In the meeting, Ms Mo briefed Mr Pang on the latest situation of Hong Kong and the work of HKETO, and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interests.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-pays-a-courtesy-call-on-mpp-billy-pang.html>

### **Director of HKETO attends HKCBA networking reception in Montreal**

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the "Think Asia, Think Hong Kong" networking reception organised by the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) (Montreal Section) on October 3.

At the event, Ms Mo gave a presentation on the latest situation in Hong Kong and introduced the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area development, as well as the business opportunities arising from the development. About 40 participants from the business sector in Montreal attended the event.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/director-of-hketo-attends-hkcba-networking-reception-in-montreal.html>

### **HKETO Director attends Toronto Hong Kong Lions Club Charity Gala**

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the Toronto Hong Kong Lions Club Charity Gala in Markham on September 28.

Speaking at the gala, Ms Mo first updated the audience on the current situation in Hong Kong, including the decision to withdraw the extradition bill by the HKSAR Government. She emphasised that despite the recent disruptions, the fundamentals and institutional underpinning of Hong Kong's economy and society are strong.

Ms Mo noted that the senior echelon of the HKSAR Government has launched a round of dialogue sessions with the general public. A basket of measures have also been introduced to support companies.

Ms Mo remarked that Hong Kong remains an open and cosmopolitan society and an internationally connected, vibrant, and dynamic economy. Last year, two major transport infrastructures were commissioned. They greatly enhance Hong Kong's connectivity to all parts of Mainland China.

The Free Trade Agreement and the related Investment Agreement between Hong Kong and ASEAN, which came into force this year, also provides a new perspective to facilitate Canadians' connection with Asia through the Hong Kong platform.

Click the following link for details.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-attends-toronto-hong-kong-lions-club-charity-gala.html>

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

#### Reel Asian showcases the best in Hong Kong cinema

The Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival (Reel Asian), in partnership with HKETO, is proud to present a documentary "The Last Stitch" (雙縫) at this year's Festival at the TIFF Bell Lightbox on November 9. HKETO is one of the sponsors of the Festival.

"The Last Stitch" is about Director Alfred Sung's loving portrayal of his family's intergenerational tailoring business, which takes the audience through the tumult of emigrating from Hong Kong to Toronto. Previously focused on creating Western-style dress that catered to wealthy British patrons, the Sungs have continued to tailor over the last 20 years, making cheongsam and predominantly Chinese-style wear for the Chinese diaspora in Toronto. The documentary highlights the everyday details of the family business in tender emotional beats, juxtaposing contemporary scenes of the Sungs' life with archival family videos and photos, presenting evolving ideas of home and homeland across three generations.

Director Sung will meet with the audience at the screening followed by a Q&A session. Tickets are on sale now.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.reelasian.com/festival-events/the-last-stitch/>

#### HKETO sponsors Cathay Ball organised by Mon Sheong Foundation

Embodying the theme "Symphony of Lights", the Cathay Ball organised by the Mon Sheong Foundation will be held at Metro Toronto Convention Centre South Building on November 2. HKETO will continue to sponsor the event and set up a photo booth where guests can take pictures with backgrounds showcasing the beautiful skyline of Hong Kong. Guests are welcomed to visit HKETO booth on the event day.

Click the following link for details.

<https://cathayball.monsheong.org/>

### HONG KONG NEWS

#### HKSAR Government introduces anti-mask law

With effect from October 5, the HKSAR Government has put in place the Prohibition on Face Covering Regulation to ban the use of facial covering in public meetings and processions regulated under the Public Order Ordinance (Cap. 245) and unlawful and unauthorised assemblies as well as riots. Offenders will be liable to a maximum fine of \$25,000 and imprisonment for one year.

Making the announcement at a press conference, the Chief Executive of the HKSAR Mrs Carrie Lam said the current situation in Hong Kong has given rise to a state of serious public danger that the HKSAR Government has to address. She said that the Government is particularly concerned that many students are participating in these violent protests or even riots, jeopardising their safety and even their future. A responsible Government has the duty to use all available means in order to stop the escalating violence and restore calmness in society.

The Chief Executive in Council decided at a special meeting on October 4 to invoke the power under the Emergency Regulations Ordinance and make a new regulation in the name of Prohibition on Face Covering Regulation.

Mrs Lam said the regulation is essentially an anti-mask law which has already been introduced in jurisdictions around the world. It is believed that the new law will create a deterrent effect against masked violent protesters and rioters and will assist Police in their law enforcement. She emphasised that the decision to invoke the Emergency Regulations Ordinance is a difficult but also a necessary one for public interest.

Mrs Lam added that she and her Principal Officials will continue the dialogue with the public as it is the best way to find solutions to some of the city's deep-seated social problems and allow Hong Kong to move forward.

Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/04/P2019100400613.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/04/P2019100400773.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/04/P2019100400936.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/04/P2019100400974.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/05/P2019100500755.htm>

### **Government severely condemns violent acts of masked rioters**

Members of the public participated in unauthorised assemblies and processions in various districts on Hong Kong Island and in Kowloon over last two weeks, where a large number of masked rioters took the opportunities to block roads and vandalise public property, MTR stations as well as banks and shops selected by the rioters in various areas. The HKSAR Government severely condemns these violent acts which totally disregard law and order.

A spokesman said that the violent acts in recent days have thrown the community into panic and chaos, affecting public services and prompting malls and shops to suspend businesses for fear of vandalism.

The Prohibition on Face Covering Regulation has come into effect. The HKSAR Government urges the public not to involve in any potential law violation. Police reiterate that no violent behavior will be tolerated. Police will continue to take resolute enforcement action so as to safeguard the city's public safety and bring all lawbreakers to justice. The Government also appeals to members of the public to pay attention to personal safety.

Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/07/P2019100700055.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/06/P2019100600816.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/05/P2019100500093.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/03/P2019100300073.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/02/P2019100200058.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201909/30/P2019093000836.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201909/29/P2019092900877.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201909/28/P2019092800943.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/07/P2019100700819.htm>

### **HKSAR float "Hong Kong In" joins 70th Anniversary parade in Beijing**

The HKSAR on October 1 participated in the National Day Parade in Beijing to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

Themed "Hong Kong In", the HKSAR float is designed to look like a moving ship, symbolising how Hong Kong constantly moves forward in the pursuit of development and progress.

The float showcases five models of present and future iconic structures in Hong Kong to highlight the city's development in arts and culture, innovation and technology as well as infrastructure.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/01/P2019100100459.htm>

### **SFST signs CDTA with Estonia in Tallinn**

The Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, Mr James Lau, signed in Tallinn, Estonia on September 25 a comprehensive avoidance of double taxation agreement (CDTA) with the Minister of Finance of Estonia, Mr Martin Helme, signifying the Government's sustained efforts in expanding Hong Kong's tax treaty network.

This is the 42nd CDTA that Hong Kong has signed with its trading partners, including Canada. The CDTA will reinforce economic and trade connections between the two places, and offer additional incentives for the business sector of both sides to do business or invest.

Under the CDTA, any Estonian tax paid by Hong Kong residents in respect of income derived from sources in Estonia will be allowed as a credit against the Hong Kong tax payable on the same income, subject to the provisions of the tax laws of Hong Kong. For Estonian residents, double taxation will be avoided by way of exemption of the income taxed in Hong Kong from the Estonian tax, or deduction of Hong Kong tax paid from the Estonian tax in respect of the same income. In addition, the CDTA also provides some tax relief arrangements.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201909/26/P2019092600188.htm>

### **Orders on Comprehensive Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement with Cambodia and Protocol to Comprehensive Avoidance of Double Taxation Arrangement with the Mainland gazetted**

Two orders made by the Chief Executive in Council under the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) to implement the Comprehensive Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement with Cambodia (Cambodia CDTA) and the Fifth Protocol to the Comprehensive Avoidance of Double Taxation Arrangement with the Mainland (Mainland CDTA) respectively were gazetted on October 4.

Under the Cambodia CDTA, investors will not have to pay tax twice on a single source of income. It will bring tax savings and a greater certainty on taxation liabilities for the

residents of the treaty partners when they engage in cross-border trade and investment activities.

Regarding the Fifth Protocol to the Mainland CDTA, it incorporates into the Mainland CDTA a new teachers and researchers article to provide tax relief to qualified Hong Kong and Mainland teachers and researchers working on the other side, as well as measures to prevent tax treaty abuse to ensure that the Mainland CDTA follows the latest international tax standard.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/02/P2019100200311.htm>

### **Popular Japanese tearoom chain opens first branch in Hong Kong**

The first branch of Afternoon Tea TEAROOM in Hong Kong was opened on September 28, offering a Japanese-style casual afternoon tea experience in a tourist hotspot.

The tearoom is located in a brand new art mall in Tsim Sha Tsui, with delicious sweets and a variety of foods such as sandwiches and pasta, plus selected teas and drinks. It promises to offer a style of hospitality, called omotenashi, which is found in Japan.

The company also offers a training programme in Japan for the Hong Kong staff of its partner (Tearoom (HK) Limited) to learn the company's concept, menu and way to serve customers in order to maintain the finest quality of services in Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201909/25/P2019092400283.htm>

### **International media partnership with the Information Services Department**

The Economist, in partnership with the Information Services Department, created a piece of branded content and an infographic about the Greater Bay Area, titled "Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area: Connecting opportunities", to showcase Hong Kong as both a conduit for global companies looking to access Mainland China, and Mainland China's window to the world.

Please click here to read the article.

<https://hkglobalconnections.economist.com/hong-kong-and-the-greater-bay-area-connecting-opportunities/>



## Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

October 9, 2019



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